

**N.H. EMERGENCY MEDICAL & TRAUMA SERVICES  
COORDINATING BOARD**

**Richard M. Flynn Fire Academy  
222 Sheep Davis Road  
Concord, NH 03301**

**NON-APPROVED MINUTES OF MEETING**

**January 19, 2006**

**Members Present:** Steve Achilles (Vice Chair), Eileen Bartlett, Al Burbank, Dave Dubey, David Duquette, David Hogan, Don Johnson, Doug Martin, Douglas McVicar, Jackie Normile, Michael Pepin, Suzanne Prentiss, Susan Reeves, Norman Yanofsky

**Members Absent:** Diane Becker, Janet Houston, Ken Howe, Karen Lord, Joseph Mastromarino, Shawn Mitchell, Dianne Roberts, Joseph Sabato (Chair), John Sutton

**Guests:** William Thorpe, Jr., Jonathan Dubey

**Bureau Staff:** Rick Mason, Vicki Blanchard, Liza Burrill, Cindy Castagnino, Kathy Doolan, Clay O'Dell, Eric Perry, Fred von Recklinghausen

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

**Item 1.** The meeting of the EMS & Trauma Services Coordinating Board was called to order by Steve Achilles, Vice Chair on January 19, 2006 at the Richard M. Flynn Fire Academy in Concord, NH.

**II. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES**

**Item 1.** November 17, 2005 **Minutes: Motion** was made by Don Johnson and seconded by Dave Dubey to accept the minutes as written. The **motion** was passed unanimously.

**III. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**Item 1.** **NHEMS Medical Control Board Report:** J. Mastromarino and D. McVicar were not present to give the report from the morning meeting. V. Blanchard and S. Prentiss gave a synopsis of the morning's discussions. **RSI** was discussed at length and the possibilities for future data collection through

TEMSIS. **The new AHA guidelines** were also on the docket with implementation questions being the focus, as it will impact the protocols. It was decided that the protocols would stay with the two-year revision plan and that no “emergent” updates would be made because of the AHA changes. The MCB will write a letter to each Unit and Hospital Coordinator explaining the issues. **The 2007 Protocol Subcommittee** has met and will begin working on revisions for the 2007 update. The format of the document, pediatric issues and any additional updates required will be worked on. The goal is to have a first draft by the July meeting. The **ACEP Roundtable** was held on January 11, 2006 and was well attended with 25 physicians attending. The physicians present were quite impressed with the EMS statewide protocols and the TEMSIS project. They discussed RSI and cardiac treatment issues amongst other topics.

**Item 2. Radio Interoperability:** Col. Booth and Pam Urban-Morin arrived to give their update on radio interoperability. The last 24 months have been productive. In addition to the Fire Service radios, 225 mobile radios have been installed, thus far, in EMS vehicles. The additional radios have come in and are being distributed to the shops for installation. The work on ordering portable radios has just begun.

**Item 3. First Responder Scope of Practice Update:** L. Burrill gave an from the committee which has met once and has other meeting scheduled. A hand-out was distributed regarding the First Responder (FR) Task Force Progress Report (dated 1/19/06). The sheet lists the goals of the task force, and an overview of the task force meeting held January 12, 2006. Representation from all types of FR Units and areas of the state that have FR's are on the task force. The committee has two main goal; What do we do with First Responders in light of the changes in protocols? And, What's the best direction to pursue in the future? No decisions have been made at this point, much of the meeting was just to make sure everyone was brought up to speed on the issues. The committee will report back at the March meeting.

**Item 4. NHBEMS Report:** In light of time constraints, the Bureau Chief deferred to the written report in the folders but pointed out a few highlights from the document.

**Item 5. Computer Based Testing (CBT) Update:** S. Prentiss gave the update on the National Registry (NR) Computer Based Testing project. She gave the results of the survey that was sent out last September in a power point presentation. In addition to the NR option, the Bureau creating it's own exam and a company called I.O. Solutions has been considered. The reality of the Bureau creating and validating it's own exam process is unrealistic. More information from I.O. Solutions will be brought to the next meeting for discussion. Concerns were raised about individual exam costs and scheduling issues. Same day testing of practical and written exams, to lessen travel needs, should be considered. The Bureau Chief asked everyone to go out to his or her constituency, and discuss this

issue to make sure they know how they feel, since they will be the one impacted. The Board will be asked to endorse the recommendation of the Bureau when that time comes (at March or May meeting). Members expressed their beliefs that NR is the right choice as it reinforces standardization in the EMS field.

Note: Bill Brown from the National Registry will be here in May to meet with Instructors and Board members on this topic.

**Item 6. DHHS Update:** M. Cooney was not present to give this report.

**Item 7. MRH Agreement Issue Update:** S. Reeves offered information from her discussion with Lesley Melby from the Hospital Association. Discussion on surveying the hospitals to get input on the matter was concluded by the group as not necessary with the feeling that the facilities would never come to one agreement. A “Best Practice” list was discussed, to include what an MRH agreement should have in it, such as business associates agreement, education requirements and other elements including sample paragraphs. Possibly the EMS Coordinators could produce a sample, make sure it is consistent with rules, and put all the elements in to share with all MRH’s. This could be included on the Bureau’s web site for access by all. The draft will be shared at the March meeting.

**Item 8. Items of Interest:**

- ◆ Director Mason mentioned the Senate Bill 260 and the addition of CCRN to RSA 153A-16. D. Dubey asked if the Dept. of Safety was supporting the Senate Bill dealing with consequences of assaulting and EMS Provider on duty? The Director responded “Yes”.
- ◆ Doug Martin brought up that there is a shortage of Paramedics in the state. Questions were raised as to how this Board could possibly assist with this issue. It was suggested that a subcommittee be formed, volunteers stepped forward - Dave Hogan, Doug Martin, Don Johnson and Mike Pepin will meet to discuss possibilities. The Bureau will assist with data, mailing information etc, as requested. D. Martin will coordinate the group, and they will present at the next meeting.
- ◆ **EMS Field Programs:** Eric Perry gave a presentation not previously listed on the agenda. He presented on the current Fire Standards field programs and gave a conceptual look forward on the EMS field programs with associated implementation plan. Initially, two courses will be held, one north and one south, to pilot the programs. Then the plan will be that two programs will be funded in each of the five Regions annually. Regional Council input to this project will be taken starting in February when presentations will be made at each of the meetings. Board members raised questions regarding the possibilities for continuing education courses and certificate programs to be funded instead of, or in addition to, the initial and refresher type programs (ex: EMT-B & EMT-B RTP’s). The Bureau will certainly consider this if the Regional Councils see it as an issue in their areas.

#### **IV. ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion** was made by D. Hogan and seconded by A. Burbank to adjourn. Unanimous agreement, and meeting was adjourned at 3:35.

#### **V. NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be on March 16, 2006 at 1:00pm at the Richard M. Flynn Fire Academy, 222 Sheep Davis Road, Concord, NH.

Respectfully Submitted,

Suzanne M. Prentiss, Bureau Chief, EMS

(Prepared by C. Castagnino, Secretary II/K. Doolan, Field Services Coord.)